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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0156
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RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
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RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 4855
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 8521
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USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - KOSOVO

LEAD STORIES: There were no papers published on Monday morning due to a press holiday. Broadcasters reported Monday morning on senior Japanese government officials' public addresses on Sunday, during which they called for public understanding and support for the enactment of the new antiterrorism legislation.

"Failed Mediation in Kosovo" The liberal Mainichi's correspondent report stated (12/9): "In response to the submission on Friday to UN Secretary-General Ban of a report compiled by the U.S., Russia, and the EU concerning the final status of Serbia's Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the people of Kosovo urged their government on Saturday to declare independence.... They hope that independence will bring about economic recovery and may eventually help Kosovo to join the EU.... As if in anticipation of the Kosovan people's desire for independence, British Foreign Minister Miliband on Friday in Brussels stressed the need for the EU to work together on Kosovo, saying: 'Kosovo is in Europe's backyard, and the time has come for European nations to exercise true leadership.' The EU will face a tough test, as it needs to prevent a conflict from re-erupting while making sure not to betray residents' hopes."

SCHIEFFER